

WIT AND WISDOM.

making wells, some are left out and ours are left in. —
 "HAT it is: A corset is nothing more than a waste-basket." —*Albany Press*,
 "CAPTAIN BILL is going to Europe. As he is to get even with the mother army."
 "I moved the items in a shoemaker's bill : sent them to a Kingman man : was : socks on with, twenty-five cents." —
 "It is suggested, by a lady, that the on they say "her" and "she" when they speak of ships, is that they very doctly of ships, is that they was was "whatting society will tackle" question. "What is the most fun?" — e a man try to thread a needle or, a man try to drive a nail?"
 "A two-wheeled wagon is a bicycle with a third wheel. Is a tricycle?" — "It would you can call a five-wheeled one, a V-Hide, of course." —*Philadelphia Times*.
 "Reason having asked how many 'one-days' there were in the year, replied for an answer that it was impossible to number them, as "every dog has own day."
 "There is no law in this country to force the owner of a clipped horse to be the winter without flannels or overcoat. That's where he has the advantage over a brute creation."
 "A nurse girl of six years, when asked to give a prescription in order at the butcher's, replied, "To the man with the apples in his face." The man was very pitted by malpox.
 "The anti-polygamy bill will, perhaps, create a new order of Amur's private engagements, inasmuch as rumor predicts that with contemplating matrimony with out a dozen young ladies.
 "Yes," said a certain false young man, "that is a rumorm." "That is an old gish song with a refrain." "Ah!" replied the crusty crony, "that justifies. Refrain from singing it."
 "Is that it that is the reason why all his goods are sold for nothing?" "That is the reason why if the people come and buy. Those who treat in wisdom's ways will sell their goods for holidays." —*Lowell Courier*.
 "A French chemist thinks he can reconstitute a human body after it has been

not on Oscar Wilde," said the man who was just as fast as the fastest. —*Norristown Herald.*

MRS. LARGERY says she used to milk her cows, and would do it again if they were not so fat. —*Id.*

"But let no young woman think of marrying a man without his authority. It is a costly but light and early on bracelet of winter comments to start the fire." —*Id.*

CANED meat weighing not more than one pound, is to be sent through the mails as fourth-class matter. Now, if congressmen will send their hungry constituents corned beef instead of public comments, they will be supplied by the transmission of Patent Office reports. —*Id.*

SHE shipped him: A lawyer recently got a bride in a peculiar way. He appeared at the wedding, but, upon being asked to give the bride away, a young man he had just hired protested that he was not ready, proceeded, and demanded delay. And so the bride got mad and shipped him. —*Id.*

SAYS the *Hotel Mail*: Only newly married couples are allowed to dine at the hotel dining room arm-chairs. But when you see two men staggering out of a dining room arm-chair at the close of a big banquet, it is a sign that the party was a married couple, and that the party was from the rural districts. —*Id.*

A GERMANY met a rustic, and thinking good opportunity to make a religious impression asked him: "Do you believe in hell?" "No, sir," replied the rustic, "which of us two would he take?" The rustic thought the question and then replied: "Me, sir." "And why?" "Well, sir, because if I didn't believe in hell, I would have to get me, while he's only prey to you, sir, all the time." —*Id.*

At the last meeting of the Anti-Vaccination Society, the proceedings were interrupted by the entrance of some of the "dissident" members.

happox, and he began to explain scientifically how he had caught the disease, when he suddenly found himself left alone. The society had adjourned through the windows.—*Philadelphia Ledger*

"(UNCLE BEN," said old Bob, "here's a ten dollars what yer lent me about a year ago." "Brudder Bob, I is greatly surprised at de countenance of self-interest in yer face. Lawd I nuber 'spected er git dat money again, an' I'd dun thought dat I had dun de gin de money ter yer." "Eef dat was de case, Uncle Ben, I'll nuber put it back into yer pocket. I al'ers nuber takes it a rule nuber ter disappoint nufers."—*Idem*

A MARTINET of a sergeant turns up unexpectedly to call out a fatigue party. Only one soldier answers to the summons. "Where are the others?" he asks. "To 'emfession!" yells the irritated officer. "What in the name of a hundred thousand devils do you mean by coming out alone, sir, when I called out a party of ten?" "Well, sir, I nuber see de black hole!" "That'll teach you to be one of my men to turn out!"

Only the mortos posed up at the fairy fair in Milwaukee this week, says a little ranch butter in the whole lump. "The mortos are the worst of the lot," says that's probably the trouble with a good deal of this boarding house and restaurant butter, a ranch chink has crept in and was overlooked by the proof reader. "The mortos edition was run off it was a good deal that the whole batch had become mortos."—*Idem*

THAT new Canadian weather prophet who has notified President Arthur that a terrific storm will play sad havoc with the American fleet, need not feel alarmed for the safety of our Navy. The president, having received timely warning, has instructed the Secretary of the Navy to employ a few homing pigeons to fly ahead of the fleet and deliver a shed bulb over them. This precaution may entail an expense of \$800 or \$900, but the American Navy must and should be preserved.—*Norristown Herald*.

THROUGH THE SNOW.

For what should I watch when the snow lies white
On the top of the distant hill?
For what should I listen when all is hushed?
And when even the birds are still?
I wait for I know that my love will come,
On some errand of mercy bent,
And my lady's face will be glad and bright
With the charm of a sweet content.
So I wait for the crackle of frozen snow,
For a step that sets my heart aglow,
For a voice whose music too well I know,
As my lady comes through the snow.
I know she will come, for the snow is hard
When it lies at the poor man's door,
And therefore my love with her gentle hand
Thinks the rich should befriend the poor.
So not vainly shall I for her coming wait,
And perchance it may even be
My lady shall learn from to-day to em
That her lady should reach to em
So I wait for the crackle of frozen snow,
For a step that sets my heart aglow,
For a voice whose music too well I know,
As my lady comes through the snow.
And then when she comes thro' the city, white
snow,
Will she meet me with glad surprise?
Ah! I shall I read what my heart would
know.
In the gleam of her sweet blue eyes?
I know she will give me at least a smile,
And my heart in its light shall glow,
For love, in its warmth, is soft and true,
And can length through the north winds blow.
So I wait for the crackle of frozen snow,
For a step that sets my heart aglow,
For a voice whose music too well I know,
As my lady comes through the snow.

DOT'S CHRISTMAS STOCKING

It was morning; thick and fast it came
down, and the entire city, vehicles,
horses, and pedestrians were well
covered with the soft feathery flakes.
Notwithstanding this "heavy fall of
snow," throngs of men and women, boys
and girls, were out, hurrying along, this
Christmas eve, going hither and thither.
They were in twos and threes and fours,
all gayly talking, and laden with bun-
dles, bags and small. Hearts were
light, faces wreathed in smiles, and
and anon there came ringing out on the
air peals of laughter, as musical in tone
as the joyously sweet strains of the
Christmas Carols. And there were the
polly street vendors, hawking their
wares. These "poor creatures" were
brilliant with color and sparkling enter-
tainment. Crowds of customers were shop-
ping, happy in the purchase of presents
for beloved ones. The splendors of the
Christmas eve were everywhere. The
dolls and toys gave a dash and a
spectacular-like fascination to the wishful
lookers on—and still the snow came
slowly and steadily down.

To the casual observer there was un-
usual by this Christmas eve. Also there
were hearts heavy with sorrow, and hun-
dreds of cheerless homes, as there always
are. And yet noble charity was busy at
work throwing sunshine over poverty.
Often, however, the helping hand is shut
out by the pride of refined nature, who
study to hide their wants as cautiously
as the miser does his gold. Of this class
was Mrs. May, a sweet-faced lady, with
large soulful eyes and gentle manners.
Her countenance, usually serene, was to-
day unusually interesting, as a discouraged ex-
pression, and her eyes are red with weep-
ing this Christmas eve. She stands by
the window and sighs sadly as she looks
out upon the happy throng, and her lips
murmuring, "Oh, if I could feel strong
and well I might do more work."

"Mamma, where's Willie?"
"He has not returned yet, Dot. How
do you feel now, dear?"
"Very well, mamma; wake me up when
Willie comes?"
Dot closed her eyes and was soon sweetly
dozing. How fondly her weary mother
gazed at the little sufferer. And as she
saw by the window, her heart was
held the little tiny way hand in hers,
again the tears rained down her cheeks,
and the poor woman exclaimed in stifled
tones:

"Oh, what an avalanche of sorrow has
borne down upon me, crushing out all
the sunshine of life. One year ago this
Christmas eve I had a pretty home, a
loving husband, and my dear children
around with the exception of Santa
Claus coming. Now, alas! I am alone,
poor little Dot has not had one single
comfort."

"Oh, yes, I have," exclaimed a low,
sweet voice. "I have my dear mamma,
and here is Willie. Dot's eyes opened
and she saw that the child was very
well, and she said to herself, "How
glad I am to see you, Willie!"

"Yes, Dot, I thank God every day for
giving me such good children."

"Oh, I am nothing, mamma, only a
burden. When she was sleeping, and
we had a good home, I don't suppose
minded about the expense of poor sickly
Dot; but it is so different now, you and
Willie work so hard to keep this little
home."

"Oh, my darling," exclaimed Mrs.
May, "I only wish I could do more for
you. Willie and I love you very dearly,
and it makes us happy to get you com-
fortable things."

"You are a dear mamma, good night."

"Again little Dot was sleeping. The
child never complained although she
had always suffered. She was nine years
old, and had the form of a child about
six years of age. Dot was fast passing
away, and yet her mother was not aware
that death hovered over her little girl.
Mrs. May sat by the side of the bed and
sadly gazed at that lovely little face.
The features were beautifully shaped,
and the wealth of golden hair was
carelessly laid over the neck and
shoulders, reaching nearly to the waist.
Mrs. May sat there in that dingy
gloomy room, with its ugly walls, bare
and sooty furniture, and recalled
in bitter contrast the brightness, beauty
and refined surroundings of her former
home; and silently she offered up a
prayer for strength to endure peacefully
her trials."

Presently the door slowly opened, and
a smiling face peeped into the room.
It was Willie May. He motioned for his
mother to come to the door. She did so,
and the boy whispered:

"Yes, dear," replied his mother, fondly
gazing at her little son. "Dot is cer-
tainly better; she sleeps very sweetly,
and says that she has no pain."

"I am so glad," said Willie smiling.
"See here, mamma, I've got something
for Dot's Christmas stocking. When
shall I put the things? she mustn't see
them until to-morrow morning. I have
been very lucky to-day. I carried home
five cents, which make \$1.10 I've
earned to-day, and I've spent fifty-two
cents for Dot's Christmas stocking. The
rest of the money is yours; here it is,
mamma."

Mrs. May smiled and kissed Willie,
saying: "My dearest boy, what should
I do without you? you are so brave, so
industrious and so good. God bless you,
darling."

"Thank you, mamma," said Willie,
"I am glad I can work, and when I'm a

man you and Dot shall have lots of nice
things."
"Is that you, Willie?" said Dot, in a
low tone.
Instantly the boy was by the side of
his sister's bed, and taking one of her
little white hands in his shapely yet
brown hands, he gently said:

"Dear Dot, are you better?"
"I guess so, Willie; I have no pain,
and I sleep so well," replied Dot, faintly
smiling, "and how are you this Christ-
mas eve?"

"I am splendid, Dot; I've made lots of
money to-day, and you shall hang up
your stocking to-night, and perhaps old
Santa Claus will put something in it."

"Now, Willie, you can't fool me; you
are my Santa Claus. I know you've
bought me something for my Christmas
stocking."

"Oh, Dot, you know too much. Why
should I buy you something for your
stocking?"

"Because you love me, Willie, and you
know I can't earn a cent—and there is no
one but you to give me anything."

"You darling, little sweet!" said Willie.
"Yes, I am your Santa Claus, and you
bet, Dot, if I had more money you should
have a splendid Christmas, and I'd make
you up a dozen stockings, and I'd fill
them all—yes, sweet, lovely, beautiful
sister. Now you bet, you'll have a Christ-
mas stocking full of nice things."

"Kiss me, Willie; I'm very sleepy—
good-night!" Willie May was only twelve years old;
but he was very wise for his age. He
seemed to comprehend that he was now
the head of the family, and should do all
that he could for his mother and invalid
sister. Willie sold newspapers and block-
ed boots and went on errands. He was
careful of his money—never spent a cent
for himself.

"Mamma," said Willie, "you look very
pale this evening; I wish you wouldn't
sow so steadily. I know we are very poor,
but you must not work so hard. You do
the work of the room, and you nurse
Dot, and make ever so many store clothes
and do too much."

"Bless your dear heart," exclaimed the
fond mother, "you talk so old like;
so loving, too. Oh, my dear Willie, you
are such a comfort and strength to me."

"Some day," said Willie, going up to
his mother and resting his hand on her
shoulder, "we will be very happy. I will
get you and Dot splendid things. To-day
I stood looking into a show win-
dow, and saw a beautiful cloak. Oh!
I wish I had money to buy it."

"Oh, my dear boy! always thinking
of others, and never a thought do you
give to your own comfort."

"Be selfishness, mamma," quickly
exclaimed Willie, "I know I will run
on Grand street, and see if I can't get a
doll for Dot's Christmas stocking."

When Willie returned Dot was awake
and bolstered up in the bed. She faintly
smiled as she remarked, "You look like
a huge snow-bell."

Willie laughed and said he was "a
snow-doll Santa Claus;" the mother
smiled, and sunshine, good cheer, and
peace reigned in that very humble home.

Dot again slumbered, and then Willie
took from his pocket a small parcel and
showed his purchase; it was a cheap
doll.

"I wish it was a better one," said
Willie, in a disappointed tone, "how I
wish I had money enough to buy a
dressed doll. Poor Dot, she ought to
have a splendid doll, she is so good."

"I will dress it, Willie, I have some
bits of lace and some pretty pieces of
ribbon, and I will look very different
when I am dressed," said Mrs. May, smil-
ing.

"So it will; you see, mamma, I got it
at a bargain, because I bought it so late
this Christmas eve."

"What a lovely come!" asked Dot in a
rather loud voice.
Both Willie and his mother stepped
quickly to Dot's bedside.

"Yes, I am here," said Willie, quietly.
"I think you're right," said Dot, and
at once lay in sleep again.

"How beautiful she looks to-night,"
said Willie, earnestly gazing at Dot.
"Do you think she is better, mamma?"

"I hardly know what to think," re-
plied Mrs. May, thoughtfully. "She is
free from pain, and sleeps a great deal
since she has been so easy. I am so ac-
customed to Dot's poor turns, and know
so well what she requires when she is
ill, that I almost feel I do not feel
alarmed about her."

How light was Willie May's heart when
he unfolded his little parcels, and spread
before his mother his Christmas pur-
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her trials."

THE COST OF THE ARMY.

New Legislation Contained in the Army Ap-
propriation Bill.

The new legislation recommended in
the Army Appropriation bill, as reported
to the United States House by the Ap-
propriations Committee, is as follows:
Under the head of "pay of the Army" it
provides for the payment (in addition to
pay in the line) of 25 sides-de-camps in-
stead of 37, as recommended by the es-
timate. It also provides that on and
after July 1, 1883, the General of the Army
may have aides-de-camp to be selected
from the field officers of the line below
the rank of Colonel, who, while so serv-
ing, shall each receive \$50 per month
additional pay; the Lieutenant-General
may have two aides-de-camp, to be se-
lected from officers of the line below the
rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and who,
while so serving, shall each receive \$45 per
month additional pay; that each Major-
General may have two aides-de-camp, to
be selected from the Captains or First
Lieutenants of the line, who shall each,
while so serving, receive \$35 per month
additional pay; that each Colonel may
have one aide-de-camp, to be selected
from the First Lieutenants of the line,
who shall, while so serving, receive \$30
per month additional pay; that each
Lieutenant-Colonel may have one aide-de-
camp, to be selected from the First Lieutenants
of the line, who shall, while so serving,
receive \$25 per month additional pay;
that each Major may have one aide-de-
camp, to be selected from the First Lieutenants
of the line, who shall, while so serving,
receive \$20 per month additional pay;
that each Captain may have one aide-de-
camp, to be selected from the First Lieutenants
of the line, who shall, while so serving,
receive \$15 per month additional pay;
that each Lieutenant may have one aide-de-
camp, to be selected from the First Lieutenants
of the line, who shall, while so serving,
receive \$10 per month additional pay;
that each Second Lieutenant may have one
aide-de-camp, to be selected from the First
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so serving, receive \$5 per month additional
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